

[17th September 1947]

A poll was taken and the House divided thus :—

Ayes.

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| 1 K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur. | 6 Mrs. M. Hensman. |
| 2 K. T. M. Ahamed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur. | 7 Mrs. M. N. Clubwala. |
| 3 Abdul Latif Farookhi Sahib Bahadur. | 8 Hamid Sultan Maricair Sahib Bahadur. |
| 4 Dr. Syed Tajuddin Sahib. | 9 S. K. Shaik Rowther Sahib Bahadur. |
| 5 Sri M. D. T. Kumaraswami Mudaliyar. | 10 Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao. |
| | 11 Dr. V. K. John. |

Noes.

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| 1 The Hon. Sri O. P. Ramaswamy Reddiyar. | 11 Sri N. Sankara Reddi. |
| 2 The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan. | 12 „ N. Venkatachalamaji. |
| 3 The Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon. | 13 „ M. Sudarsanam. |
| 4 Sri K. Venkataswami Nayudu. | 14 „ A. Govindacharyulu. |
| 5 „ P. Veerabhadraswami. | 15 „ C. Perumalswami Reddiyar. |
| 6 „ Bhima Rao. | 16 „ B. Veeraswami. |
| 7 „ L. Subbarama Reddi. | 17 „ N. Ranga Reddi. |
| 8 „ S. A. S. R. M. Ramanathan Chettiyar. | 18 Mr. J. L. P. Roche Victoria. |
| 9 „ M. Narayana Menon. | 19 Sri G. Venkata Reddi. |
| 10 „ M. Narayana Rao. | 20 „ P. R. K. Sarma. |
| | 21 „ A. R. L. Pathy. |
| | 22 Mr. A. S. T. F. Rodrigues. |

Neutral.

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| 1 Dr. Sir A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar. | 3 Sri A. Gopalakrishnayya. |
| 2 Sri B. Narayanaswami Nayudu. | 4 „ D. Krishnamurthy. |

Ayes 11 ; Noes 22 ; Neutral 4.

The motion was lost.

(2) Resolutions.

(i) FORMATION OF A WELFARE DIRECTORATE OR DEPARTMENT IN CHARGE OF SOCIAL WELFARE.

* MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I am greatly obliged for allowing me to move the following resolution standing in my name :—

‘ This Council recommends to the Government to form at an early date a Welfare Directorate or Department under either a woman Minister or a woman Director, to be in charge of all social welfare work in the Province. ’

My subject falls into two groups—one the directorate and secondly the appointment of a woman Minister. I am voicing the opinion of the majority of women in our Province when I say we are sorely disappointed that this Government has not appointed a woman Minister. India's struggle for freedom could never have been achieved if our womenfolk had not fought and sacrificed along with their men and if they had not influenced them and led their menfolk to leave their home and hearth to fight the battle for freedom. Many are the unsung heroines, for, in India, a woman holds a place of great honour. In our Province we have many examples of women filling positions with trust and ability. May I ask why, when we have a woman Ambassador, a Governor, a Dominion Minister, and Constituent Assembly Members, there is no woman Minister in our

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Province. Surely, it is a known fact that it is greatly due to Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit that India's power and position as a nation, equal to any other, has been established at the U.N.O. May I ask, what of the many paid and unpaid women workers who have helped to run the Government of our Province and I proudly say and feel that there are first-rate women public workers in this country. Why has the Government been unmindful of appointing a woman? It is certainly not encouraging to our efforts and our services—this lack of appreciation on the part of the Government. Even on the various Government Committees very few women are appointed. Perhaps some of our Hon. Ministers may have had the unfortunate experience of having women on committees who spend a long time in discussing small points, but then, believe me, Sirs, there *are* women—practical women, who will not waste your time and will not provoke your chivalry—if you would but look around you. We do earnestly request the Government to appoint at an early date a woman Minister.

“ Now coming to the second part of my Resolution, I agitated and have, for several years, felt that the work in certified schools should not come under Inspector-General of Prisons, but under a separate officer. I have been unpopular in some quarters for this, but then from practical experience I knew that it should be so and the plan which I prepared for the then Law Minister, Mr. Bhaashyam, was considered. I congratulate the Government on this separation of functions and still more so on the appointment of a separate Chief Inspector and Major Ford Thompson as Child Psychologist. The results that will be achieved by this wise step will be the first of its kind in India and an example to other countries. But I would still request the Government to call your Chief Inspector of Certified Schools by another name and bring this work under the Director of Welfare instead of the Jail Department.

“ All over the Province there are organizations, some entirely run by Government, some Government-aided or voluntary, some good and some bad and indifferent. Often there is overlapping, competition and if members have the courage to bring forward suggestions for improvement, it is not always appreciated. Then there are other institutions, run by voluntary bodies and helped by Government. These organizations founded and run by men and women in the past with much sacrifice, are in a sad way. Some, though legitimately they should receive a grant, do not receive it in full measure. Rumours are about that Government wish to take them over. The result is a feeling of uncertainty. The paid staff—most of whose salaries are inadequate, especially in the lower grade—have a feeling of insecurity. The committee cannot make improvements for they are constantly told that Government are going to take over control, and, under these conditions, to carry on the day-to-day working in one or two institutions, is no easy task. Besides the officials of these institutions have to interview or explain to several

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officials and departmental heads the details of the working of these societies, and satisfactory results take considerable time to materialize.

"In a democracy, to obtain privileges and rights and freedom we pay for them by doing our duty and accepting our responsibilities as individuals. We have been agitating, struggling and fighting and many have died believing that the price of duty and responsibility was low in comparison with the results of freedom. In a democracy, the majority make the decision and the minority must go with them until such time as the minority becomes the majority. We are all apt to make mistakes, and social welfare is considered now, not in its true perspective. There has been so much abuse in social welfare and many are those who have done it for personal ends. But then there are others who have done it for service alone. If some are unwilling to accept responsibility, there are others available with a desire to accept responsibility to render true service.

"I was glad to learn that the Madras Cabinet had decided to introduce compulsory social service in high schools and colleges. This is an excellent move and I congratulate the Government on it. The Indian Women's Civic Corps have also submitted a detailed plan to Government for a re-organization of its aims and objects into a Department of Social Service for Women and I hear it is receiving Government's attention. But then what I am asking for is a Directorate for all social welfare—for men, women and children.

"I would urge Government to appoint firstly a Minister for public welfare. This does not require any special legislation and can be done by the separation of the secretariat staff dealing with these matters and centralizing it into a new department. Such a Minister should be conversant with the various social service organizations in the Province. There should be an investigation into the working of all organizations and a registration of the same, for, mixed up with the work of worthy institutions are several—may I say—bogus organizations. A man goes from office to office collecting a rupee here and a rupee there. Perhaps, to get rid of him, an officer donates a few rupees. Others, not in the know of the usefulness or not of such an organization, see someone else has given a donation and give a few rupees; and so the vicious circle goes on and the collector absconds. I was a victim of these collections in the early days of my work and had to waste my time in the Court giving evidence. I am indebted to Prof. Motwani for the following information. In 1937, Sir Francis Younghusband, an ex-President of the British Sociological Society and Chairman of the Indian Village Welfare Association, organized a meeting and submitted a memorandum to the Government of India. This memorandum, while emphasizing that their findings may not altogether be suitable to Indian conditions, made mention that there was scope for a similar organization in India. In 1940 Sir G. S. Bajpai took this up and appointed a committee under the chairmanship of

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Sir Maurice F. Gwyer. This committee recommended the starting of an 'All-Indian Council of Social Services with an Institute of Research and Practical Training' at the Central Government. The matter was brought up again in 1942 in the light of information gathered from Government departments on work undertaken by voluntary agencies of an all-India character. The Board felt that, in each Province, efforts should be made to co-ordinate the work of the various social service agencies and it was also decided that the Central Bureau should continue to collect from the Provincial Governments and voluntary bodies information regarding—

(1) Existing agencies for social service in their areas including universities.

(2) Scope of their activities.

(3) Their relation to one another and the means adopted to co-ordinate their work.

The usual evasiveness of officialdom reduced this idea of an 'All-Indian Council of Social Services with an Institute of Research and Practical Training' to a mere bureau for collecting information for the members at annual meetings.

In striking contrast is the 'Daily Life Security Bill' introduced by General McArthur in Japan which is considered to be the most important development in the field of social legislation in Japan. Before occupation, public welfare, as understood by the Europeans and Americans, was unknown in Japan. The Daily Life Security Bill provides for establishment of protection institutes to provide relief for unemployed, medical aid for sick, pre-natal and post-natal aid to mothers, old age pensions, etc.

Nearer home is the news in the *Hindu* of the 8th September of the forthcoming conference in Singapore which envisages the proper approach to our problems.

I cannot over-emphasize the need for an Institute or Bureau for Research and Practical Training in Social Welfare. Research in problems of social welfare and training in social work are two different things and they should be treated separately. The research branch should gather data and information and examine them for the use of the various nation-building departments. The purpose of the practical training branch will be to deal with field work, organization and administration of relief along scientific lines, with minimum of expenditure and energy and maximum benefit to the largest number of people. The need for such a bureau or institute or research is all the more greater to-day with the dawn of freedom.

Our social problems may be divided into four groups—

1. *Population mal-adjustment*.—This is a subject on which one cannot speak with authority, unless one is posted with accurate data.

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2. *Physical and mental deficiencies.*—Medicine and public health have made great advances. Health services and their administration will be one part of the problem while the other will be regarding the care of the mentally deficient, feeble-minded, the insane, the psychopathic hospitals, parole and after-service.

3. *Economic mal-adjustment.*—This is due to the rapid change in the social and economic structure, viz., income and low standard of living, unemployment, long hours and low wages, women in industry, child labour, etc.

4. *Cultural mal-adjustment.*—This falls under four groups—

(a) Communal and minorities question.

(b) Social disorganization covering marriage laws, domestic tension, divorce, desertion, etc.

(c) Child welfare.

(d) Crime—delinquency, expensive legal processes, reformatories in place of prisons, probation, parole, after-care, reform of police, etc.

“ In these matters we have been all these years, more or less intellectually isolated from the rest of the world, but, to-day, we can learn at first hand the adjustments and the advancements made in the other countries. With the knowledge and experience, of other countries, and with conditions prevailing in our own country, this bureau can be of infinite service to our statesmen and administrators in their effort to better the lot of the masses.

“ In training workers in social welfare, we must realize that our problems and conditions are different from those of other countries. Our training course should be both cheap and short—suited to the needs of our population which is essentially agricultural and rural. I believe there is only one such institute in our country and that is the Tata School of Social Science and they admit only a limited number and so, naturally, the supply is far below the demand. The Kasturba Memorial Trust is, on the other hand, organizing short-time training camps for welfare workers and turning them out by the thousand and this is very encouraging. It is here that I welcome most sincerely the wise decision of the Government to introduce social service in the curriculum of high schools and colleges and I am sure it will help the future citizens—both boys and girls, to have an interest and not a bias for social service.

“ I know our problems are not those of other countries, but still we are backward and behind the other nations of the world in their knowledge and forms of social service. And we must work untiringly to be brought in line with other nations. Every worker—voluntary or otherwise—should attend lectures and practical demonstrations in social service. It is not asking too much if true service is our aim. We did it during the war years—voluntary workers

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went and attended diversional therapy classes to help and teach patients in hospitals. Those who are making social service their profession should be given facilities to visit other countries to study and then adjust their training to suit Indian conditions. Along with the creation of this new department, Government should appoint a committee with representatives who have a practical knowledge of institutions and youth organizations and those who have a record of useful service to society and not because one is a Member of Legislature.

“ The Guild of Service (Seva Samajam), started 24 years ago, co-ordinates various social service organizations in the Province, but what is required is a Government department which would gather the experience from such organizations. I would even ask Government to pass a legislation making it compulsory that franchise holders should give at least four hours of service a week to a nation-building cause. Other countries in the East are realizing the importance of such a department and I am sure our Government will not lag behind. I hope we shall, at the next session, see a Woman Minister on the benches and this directorate will be an accomplished fact.” (Applause.)

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I rise to second the resolution so ably moved by the hon. Lady Member. I am sure, constituted as the Ministry is, it will not be unchivalrous as to oppose this innocuous resolution containing a request, which is meant more to assist Government than to embarrass them. Sir, Mrs. Clubwala has been very clever in wording the resolution, by providing them with alternatives. If the Government are not in a mood to appoint a Woman Minister, at least, she suggests that a Woman Director and the creation of a welfare directorate may be accepted by Government. I think, Sir, after listening to the arguments advanced by Mrs. Clubwala, I am sure, Government will be convinced that the time has arrived when the creation of a welfare directorate is absolutely necessary in order to co-ordinate the various social activities in this Presidency. The sooner efforts are made for such co-ordination, the better. She has also given some instances to show how sometimes bogus social workers come up and social organizations are started and how we often become victims of such organizations. I think, Sir, the existence of a welfare directorate under a woman, if not under a Woman Minister, would be conducive to the good of this Province. I do not want to detain the House any longer as I feel Government will be glad to accept this resolution.”

* MRS. M. HENSMAN :—“ Mr. President, Sir, enough has been said by the hon. Mover in her clear arguments, and by the seconder, who, I was very glad to see, was a man (laughter) on the merits of this question and so it seems to me, this resolution cannot fail. No ordinary person—and we the people in this House are ordinary people first and Members of this House second—can fail to see that this resolution would help very greatly the workers

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of social welfare at this time, if such a directorate were formed. Now, Sir, the argument for a Woman Minister has been put forward well, and I think it has been made so obvious to the Ministry, that they will rectify the omission when a vacancy arises.

“ And now, Sir, it is about the Woman Director I would speak. It seems to me, at this time of the day, when refugees are coming into our Province (of whom 6,000 are to be allotted to the City and 4,000 to the rest of the Province according to the papers), there will be an ever-increasing amount of welfare work to be done by welfare workers, I do not mean items like rations, children's aid and so on, which have been sponsored by Government on quarter grant, half grant and full grant bases. By welfare work, I am thinking of their family needs. I do not think you will disagree with me, when I say, that women are well fitted to deal with questions of women as well as of men. I am surprised that in our own country women Ministers have been tried out only on very difficult portfolios like Health and Education. Though it is true that they are best fitted to deal with these, I can tell you, Sir, that women can deal with any subject.

4-30
p.m.

“ Sir, the wife of one of our Ministers during the last year was the most successful head of a municipal corporation, and we honoured her in the work that she did; and now as the hon. Mover has pointed out our woman Ambassador abroad is doing very great things. I think, Sir, that social service is an exhaustive opportunity of service and the woman Director's work should not be confined only to women but all questions dealing with men and women and children should be included under this head. The hon. Mover has said that this Director of Services must be a person who is on several committees, but I would say it is more important to have someone at the head who has been in touch with the masses and who has done service in national organizations and has been trained with regard to the necessary laws and ameliorative measures for the women, who are now not able to speak for themselves. It is the illiterate woman who needs the service of this Directorate for she is most likely to be neglected and left out of the reckoning here. Now, Sir, the refugee problem is a very important social matter. I therefore put it forward that in view of all that has been said there is an increasing need for a Director of Social Services.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ Sir, I am very happy to see the hon. Member Mrs. Clubwala moving this resolution. In doing so she has not been aware of the fact that this Government have already begun to move in the matter and I would like to place before this House what we have done. Unfortunately she began with a complaint that there was no lady Minister. But it is so unfortunate that there is no lady Minister in any of the Provinces to-day. True, there is a lady Minister in the Dominion Government and there is certainly a lady Ambassador in Russia (An hon. Member : ‘ And a lady Governor also ’). Yes, and a lady Governor

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also. It does not look therefore, Sir, as if the Indian Public are viewing with any disfavour the idea of women taking their natural place in our public life. In Madras, particularly, we had a Minister in this Government till very recently and unfortunately she left as the Government changed. But this Government had to take responsibility under rather difficult situations. If we did not include a lady Minister it was not exactly because we had anything to say against the lady Minister or against the sex which the lady Minister represented but on account of the strenuous situation in which we were placed we could not pick and choose. It does not mean that we are against the women taking their legitimate place in our Province. Sir, I am also in sympathy with the statement made by Mrs. Hensman, a statement that the lady Director should not only control their services, but take charge of the social services both for men and women. I entirely agree with her because social services are common both for men and women and they cannot be confined only to women. I am entirely one with her in the view that she holds that the services which womanhood have rendered to the men have not been well recognized. I am sorry, Sir, but still it is there. We shall certainly see that the woman Directorate should include services to men also. Therefore it is not as if we are unaware of the great services which the women of our province have rendered in our social services, in our civic services and the various forms of activities in which women's services were appreciated and requisitioned. Therefore, it is I feel confident that women can serve well, perhaps much better than men could serve women. Perhaps we might be told that women might have a partiality for women. Even then I would like to have women to serve men also.

“ That apart, having regard to the women's movement in this province and having supported the women's movement all along at my heart, I am very sympathetic with the proposal made by Mrs. Clubwala. But I shall place a few facts before this House to show what we have done, at the end of which the House will give me permission to oppose the resolution. Sir, there are proposals under examination for the reorganization of the Indian Women's Civic Corps into a Department of Social Services for Women. In regard to the origin and aims of the proposals I suppose, Sir, I won't tire the House if I read the proposals which the Government are now considering. The proposals emanated from the Women's Memorandum presented to the Ministry by Dr. Mrs. Muthulakshmi Reddi who urged the establishment of a Social Welfare Department by the Government for purposes of rescuing girls and women who have been deserted, become destitute or helpless and to give them food and shelter and secure to them employment after specialized training. For the above purpose a kind of investigation section to go into these cases of desertion, destitution, etc., of women and children in the Province was suggested and a nucleus staff of Inspectors, and Instructresses have been planned out to be engaged throughout the Province to enquire into the bona fides of these cases. A central Home of Services for women in the city for

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providing free boarding and lodging for bona fide helpless girls and women is also under consideration. As was justly pointed out by Mrs. Clubwala, a training institute attached to the Home is also acceptable to the Government. It is not only acceptable but they are prepared to carry it out. An employment Bureau is to be attached to the Home where prospective employers will register their names and the Home will endeavour to provide them with suitable persons. The whole department is proposed to be put in charge of a Women Welfare Officer and she will be assisted by non-official Committees. Dr. Mrs. Muthulakshmi Reddi having heard of the movement of the Indian Women's Civic Corps thought it fit to consult its workers and she has fallen in with the objects of the Indian Women's Civic Corps and she is agreeable to the idea that this Civic Corps should be converted into a type of Social Service as has been outlined by Mrs. Clubwala. The Indian Women's Civic Corps is an organized body whose staff of both paid and honorary workers are already working in the field and it has rendered great service particularly during the war time. Latterly now, the organization with all its branches in all the districts is being financed and supported by the Government and that organization could easily be converted into an organization of the type which Mrs. Clubwala wants. The present posts in the Indian Women's Civic Corps are first the Commandant of the Indian Women's Civic Corps which in the proposed Department of Social Service could be made into the Women Welfare Officer; the Area organizers in the present set up will be Assistant or Deputy Women Welfare Officers; the Staff Officers in the city can be converted into Inspectresses to investigate cases in the city; and the Instructresses in the mufassal will be converted into Inspectresses to investigate cases in the mufassal. The local Executive Committees of the Indian Women's Civic Corps in the mufassal can function as advisory bodies. They can give assistance and help in investigation to the Inspectresses in the mufassal. The Provincial Executive Committee of the Indian Women's Civic Corps may function as the Provincial Advisory Committee and decide cases deserving admission into the home and institution. From this you see that the staff employed in the Indian Women's Civic Corps both in the city and mufassal can be made use of and made to take upon themselves the functions contemplated in the Women's Memorandum in addition to their present functions. No separate Central office or a Head office for the administration of the department is also necessary inasmuch as the office staff now employed in the Headquarters office of the Indian Women's Civic Corps can manage the work connected with this scheme with a little expansion. So the Civic Corps organization which is at present run by Government for the social service of women in the Province can at once be transformed into a department contemplated in the women's memorandum and achieve the objects outlined therein. There will be no additional expenditure in connection with the opening of the Service Homes with attached Institutes of Education and training. Some time ago, the hon. Mr. Prakasam, the

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then Prime Minister, expressed the idea that Government should take up and run an institution like the Avvai Home to give protection to destitute women and children. The Director of Public Instruction was asked to have a plan or scheme outlined for this purpose and he has outlined a plan in consultation with the Commandant of the Indian Women's Civic Corps.

"As for co-operation of sister organizations in the proposed department, I submit that the Women's Indian Association urged the Government to open a Social Welfare Department. The All-India Women's Conference decided to give voluntary service to the Indian Women's Civic Corps and wherever possible to work with a combined effort for the social uplift of the country. In these circumstances the proposed department on inauguration will no doubt receive co-operation from all interested quarters and will fill a long-felt lacuna in the public administration of this Province. It has also been decided that this department should also take up basic education in addition to a training school and continue under the Public Department. The views of the various departments concerned and the minutes recorded by the various Ministers go to show that they have supported the scheme as adumbrated. The Hon. Prime Minister has accepted the principles of these proposals and has promised help. He would like to have the Indian Women's Civic Corps in his own department as now and the intention of the Hon. Prime Minister is that the Indian Women's Civic Corps may take interest in education also.

"On consultation regarding financial implications, the Commandant furnished certain details of expenditure contemplating a full-fledged department in gradual development within a period of seven years commencing from the year 1947-48. In addition to the investigation, information and employment bureau, shows and sales depots are also contemplated. During the course of training, training in social service (something like Tata Social Service in Bombay) will be one of the subjects, basic education also being a subject taught during the course of training. This plan has to be completely achieved within a period of seven years. The Commandant estimates the total expenditure at Rs. 8,00,400. The Department of Finance have examined the financial implications of the scheme and the Chief Secretary considers this as a thoroughly useful scheme which should be supported.

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p.m.

"The whole Ministry is certainly in favour of it, and that is where the plan stands to-day. I have made this public with a view to acquaint the mover of the resolution with the details of the Government's scheme. The Government will certainly invite valuable opinions from such experienced social workers as the hon. Mrs. Clubwala and the hon. Mrs. Hensman who have rendered yeoman service in the field of women welfare in this Province. With such valuable help, and the public sympathy of Indian Women's Association and other social welfare organizations, we think the scheme is bound to be a success. The

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Government are very willing to undertake and carry it out. With this assurance if the hon. Mrs. Clubwala does not withdraw her resolution, the Government would be obliged to oppose it."

(Mrs. M. N. Clubwala stood up to speak.)

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" If the mover of the resolution speaks now, it will be a reply and the debate will close. Therefore I think the other members should be given an opportunity to express their opinions. Afterwards, the mover of the resolution can be allowed to speak."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" If the hon. Member wants to withdraw her resolution, I think she can be allowed."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Sir, may I point out that, when the Government's opinion in the matter is known, it is open to the Hon. President to terminate the discussion and pass on to the next item or to put the resolution to vote if it is pressed."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I do not want to terminate the discussion, but I want to know whether the hon. Member wants to withdraw her resolution."

MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA :—" I do not want to withdraw and I will reserve my explanation to the end."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Mr. President, Sir, the resolution that has now been moved by the hon. lady Member Mrs. Clubwala is a very useful and harmless resolution. We on this side of the House thought that this resolution at least would be accepted by the Government. The hon. Mrs. Hensman said that a gentleman seconded the resolution. I say that it is not only one gentleman but all the gentlemen on this side will support the resolution. If it is the intention of the Government that every non-official Bill and every resolution should be opposed and that non-official opinion should not be allowed to flourish in this House, then the Government can say so. There is no necessity for piloting non-official Bills and resolutions, and we know the result of the opposition of the Government. The Government have got a majority and if they oppose everything that comes from the non-official side, then I should say that non-official work should be put a stop to. The Government can bring their own Bills and resolutions and carry on the work.

" What is the harm in the resolution? The Hon. Leader of the House has said that the Government are moving in that direction. If they are really moving in that direction, why should they not accept the resolution? If they say that they are opposing the resolution, the correct interpretation of that is that they are not moving in that direction, and that there is something in the resolution which the Government do not like."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I certainly object to the insinuation made by the hon. Member. I have stated clearly the

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various facts in the long statement that I have made. After hearing all that, if the hon. Member still thinks that the Government have got some ulterior motive, I am very sorry that that insinuation should be made in this House."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I am sorry that I have been misunderstood by the Hon. Leader of the House. I meant no insinuation. What I meant and I still mean is this. If the Government are in favour of the object of the resolution, the Government can in plain words say that they accept the resolution. The fact that they do not accept the resolution goes to prove that there is something on account of which the Government are not prepared to accept the resolution. We on this side of the House think that a resolution of this nature is necessary. If the Government are in sympathy with the object of this resolution, according to the statement made by the Hon. Leader of the House, I implore them to say so and accept the resolution. If that is not done, we are justified in thinking that there is some reason in the Government not accepting the resolution. There may be very good reason—I do not know—and there may not be any ulterior motive. When the attitude of Government is always in opposition to the non-official members, we on this side feel that we are in a very unenviable position. I very strongly support the resolution."

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB :—" Mr. President, Sir, from the statement of the Hon. Minister, I gathered that the Government had accepted the principles laid down in the resolution moved by the hon. Lady Member. Such being the case, I am quite at a loss to know why the Hon. Minister should not accept the resolution straightaway. We all know that welfare work is at its lowest ebb in this province as compared with the other provinces and even other countries. There is a very crying need for such work at this moment. As has been pointed out by Mrs. Hensman, we are face to face with the refugee problem, and that is all the more reason why we should expedite matters. Such being the case, I request the Hon. Minister to reconsider the stand which he has taken and accept the resolution. In any measure that the Government might bring forward, these principles might be incorporated or modified in the interests of the public at large."

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Mr. President, Sir, it is very well known that the Leader of the House is a very chivalrous gentleman, and he opened his speech by saying that he was very pleased that Mrs. Clubwala brought forward this resolution. But he opposed the resolution at the end and, I think, he regretted it. It looked as if the judgment is in favour of the plaintiff, but the decree is against him. As he went on narrating the facts, I thought that he was going to say that he accepted the resolution. It is only asking for an opportunity for service. Mrs. Clubwala was well-advised in not saying that she wanted a paid Minister or a paid Director. All that she wanted was opportunity for service. It is a very well known fact and it has been accepted by the Leader of the House that social service is better left to ladies. But, at the end of his

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speech, the Leader of the House said that he could not accept the resolution. We attribute no motive but, as I said, the judgment is in favour of the plaintiff but the decree is against him."

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Mr. President, Sir, there seems to be some misapprehension about the attitude of the Government in the matter. (An hon. Member: 'It is a pity the Government have no woman Minister on their side.') That is the very reason why Mrs. Clubwala has brought forward the resolution to-day. It was asked by Mr. Farookhi and Dr. Tajuddin: 'The speech made by the Leader of the House is in favour of the resolution. Then why don't you accept it?' I hope, Sir, it will be realized that if the Government accept the resolution now, you expect them to implement it forthwith. (An hon. Member: 'Not necessarily.') Then what is the meaning of the Government accepting the resolution? It has got to be implemented. Certain welfare work is necessary. There are proposals to appoint welfare officers. The implications of the appointment of a Woman Director and various other aspects have got to be examined, and it is only after an examination of all these things the Government can commit themselves to a statement as to whether they can implement it or not. Some people say: Accept it; it is so simple. Do you want the Government to accept it and keep quiet? From the statement of the Leader of the House, it is clear that many things are under his consideration. Do you want the Government to accept it simply for the sake of acceptance?"

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Do you suggest to the hon. Member to withdraw her resolution now and renew it at a later date?"

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" It is not a question of accepting on the spot. The Government have had enough time to consider."

* MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA :—" I have got one view, and the Leader of the House has got another view. I have also said in my speech that the Indian Women's Civic Corps has put up proposals, and I am its Vice-President. I was the first to tell the Hon. Finance Minister about it on another occasion. I am well aware of all that the Civic Corps has been doing. I have said that I am not asking for a Welfare Director only for women. I am asking for both men and women. I am aware of the scheme that has been put up. I have got a copy of it with me. It is very good. But I still feel that my resolution is asking for something more: a woman Minister or a Woman Director of Social Welfare for both men and women. Therefore I do feel very disappointed that the resolution is not acceptable to the Government. Don't think that I alone am urging. The women of the province ask me to put up such things. There is rather a strong feeling among us. I hope the chivalrous Government will see their way to accept the resolution."

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MR. PRESIDENT :—“ That is why I have suggested that both of you come together. Either you convince them or they convince you. Do you press the resolution? ”

* MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA :—“ Yes, Sir, I press the resolution.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ I think I have made matters clear. The Government are prepared to consider the whole question and give it their best consideration. Since we are already moving in the matter, I said that we would seek the co-operation of the Mover and incorporate any suggestions that might be made. It is only a question of amplification or correcting errors, if any. This can be done by the co-operation of the members here and others who would like to help the Government. I think I have made this much clear that the Government are favourable and that they are moving in a particular way. If that particular method is not satisfactory, we would seek the co-operation of other members also to put it right. That we are prepared to organize the scheme and spend the money, I have already said in my statement. I do not really see where the difficulty arises. That is why I request the hon. Mover to withdraw the resolution.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ The hon. Member will do well to 5 p.m. withdraw.”

* MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA :—“ I shall withdraw, Sir, but on conditions.”

The resolution was by leave withdrawn.

(ii) CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT INDIAN CONSTITUTION BILL
BY THE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

* DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ Mr. President, I am grateful to you for giving me this opportunity of moving this resolution which runs as follows :—

‘ This Council recommends to the Government to convey to the Constituent Assembly that this Council is of opinion that the Provincial Legislative Assemblies and Councils should be given an opportunity to offer their views on the draft Indian Constitution Bill before it is finally passed by the Constituent Assembly, and necessary steps be taken to have the draft Bill transmitted as soon as possible for the consideration of this Provincial Legislature, fixing a date by which the opinions of the Legislature should be made available.’

“ Sir, it has been my good fortune on many occasions to move resolutions in various assemblies, not necessarily legislative, and it has been my good fortune also in this House to have spoken on more than one occasion, thanks to your indulgence and the indulgence of my colleagues, but on this occasion I am overwhelmed